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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	Rumania/Bulgaria/USSR	REPORT	
SUBJECT	1. Mine Fields in Western Black Sea Area	DATE DISTR.	3 Sept. 1954
DATE OF INFO.		NO. OF PAGES	4
PLACE ACQUIRED		REFERENCE NO.	RD
		REFERENCES	

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NAVY Review Completed

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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STATE #	X	ARMY #	X	NAVY #	X	AIR #	X	FBI		AEC							
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This report was prepared by US Navy interrogators

1. Mine fields

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The mine fields given in this report were laid during World War II by the Germans. The spherical contact mines were moored two meters below the surface. They were anchored by copper wire (max. length 40 m.) to cement blocks. The mine fields were untouched until 1948, when the Russians swept the fields and laid cylindrical type contact mines, with hemispherical ends, in the same areas. 1.

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this mine with its case on the dock in Constanta and

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[redacted] the mooring cable was made of bronze. Although it was prohibited to approach the mine fields closer than seven miles except through authorized channels, during this period in 1948 [redacted] the mines [redacted] laid from tracks. The harbor master at Constanta [redacted] that the mines were moored two meters below the surface. Sometime after 1948 the Rumanian Navy notified the merchant captains that any passage through any World War II mine fields would be at their own risk. [redacted] no knowledge of the mines used in the Odessa area. [redacted] it is a magnetic mine field.

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1.

Comment: It is doubtful that the Russians swept the mine areas in 1948, since it would not seem necessary in order just to add another type of contact mine. It is quite likely that the only mine-laying operations and assumed that sweeping had also been carried out. The contact mine laid by the Russians appears to be the M-KB type mine.

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